Beverage Container Stewardship Program Regulation

Annual Report by the Director

2000 - 2001 Reporting Period

Synopsis

On December 15, 1997, Cabinet approved the Beverage Container Stewardship Program Regulation to replace the deposit-refund requirements of the Litter Act. The regulation encompasses **all containers of ready-to-drink beverages, except for milk, milk substitutes, infant formula and meal replacements.** An exemption, until October 1, 1999, was granted to polycoated and flexible pouch containers to allow industry to develop a viable recycling solution which was achieved by modifications to the Green Coast paper mill (now Norampac) in Burnaby, BC.

Performance

Three stewardship agencies have been established by the beverage industry to meet their responsibilities under the regulation. These are:

Stewardship Agency	Beverage Category	Proportion of all BC Beverage Containers
Encorp Pacific (Canada)	Non-alcoholic beverages	55%
Liquor Distribution Branch	Wine, spirits, non-refillable beer, cider and coolers, except those produced by Molson and Labatt	7%
Brewers Distributor Ltd	Domestic beer in refillable glass and aluminum cans	38%

Funding

Funding for the return program is generated through unredeemed deposits, revenue from sales of recyclable materials and brand-owner fees, as necessary. The following independently audited financial information has been provided by the industry stewards:

Stewardship Agency	Reporting Period	Deposits Charged	Deposits Refunded	Recovery Rate
Encorp Pacific (Canada)	January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000	$52,774,445	$39,400,121	72%
Liquor Distribution Branch	April 1, 2000 to	$12,098,236	$10,237,972	85%

	March 31, 2001			
Brewers Distributor Ltd.	April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001	$57,508,800	$53,858,938	94%
OVERALL RECOVERY RATE				**81%**

Industry Updates

Encorp Pacific (Canada)

Encorp's container collection system comprises retail returns of up to 24 containers per person per day at retail stores where the beverages are sold and unlimited returns for all non-alcoholic beverage brands sold in British Columbia at 159 depots province-wide. A list of depots is available on the Encorp website at **http://www.encorpinc.com/**

It is Encorp's objective to build a depot based return system which will become the primary beverage container return network in the province for non-alcoholic containers.

Encorp has published its first corporate annual report to the public describing its stewardship program activities and system revenues and expenditures. The report is available on Encorp's internet website at **http://www.encorpinc.com/download/annualreport2001.pdf**

Under Encorp's system there have been no significant changes in recycling processors and brokers from those identified in previous years' reports. Containers were managed over the reporting period as follows:

Material type	Recycled Products
Aluminum	New aluminum cans
PET plastic	New bottles, plastic film
HDPE plastic	Non-food containers such as oil, detergent and spray bottles, plastic film
PVC plastic	PVC Piping
Bag-in-box	Cardboard box - paper products Foil bladder - New plastic for nonfood containers
Glass	Fibreglass home insulation, new bottles, construction aggregate, sand blasting
Bi-metal	Metal products
Gable-top	Paper products including filler plys for medium and grey gypsum wall board cover
Aseptic drink box	Paper products including filler plys for medium and grey gypsum wall board cover

Brewers Distributor Ltd. (BDL)

The BDL container management system provides for retail returns at all LDB retail outlets and cold beer and wine stores, as well as unlimited returns at 20 depots. Information on the BDL stewardship program can be found on the Western Brewers Association Internet website at **http://www.westernbrewers.com/**

Under the BDL system there have been no significant changes in recycling processors and brokers from those identified in previous years' reports. Containers were managed over the reporting period as follows:

Material	Recycled Products

type	
Glass	Bottles refilled on average 15 times each. End-of-life glass is recycled into drainage aggregate for construction materials, road aggregate and fibreglass production.
Aluminum	New aluminum cans and other fabricated aluminum products

Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB)

The LDB container management system provides for retail returns at all LDB outlets and rural agency stores province-wide, as well as unlimited returns at 46 depots which were serviced by Wastech under contract to the LDB over the reporting period.

Under the LDB system there have been no significant changes in recycling processors and brokers from those identified in previous years' reports. Containers were managed over the reporting period as follows:

Material Type	Recycled Products
Plastic	Resin for use in new containers and other plastic products
Bag-in-Box[1]	Cardboard Box: Paper products Foil Bladder: Partly recycled; partly disposed to landfill
Glass[2]	Fibreglass, manufactured glass products, aggregate road base, decorative blocks, blasting abrasive, landscape material and drainage tile.

Notes:
1. In accordance with the stewardship plan approval conditions, partially recyclable containers are required to be at least 95% recyclable by March 31, 2003, or be phased out.
2. A very small amount of ceramic containers (less than 0.1%) are included in the glass category. This small quantity does not affect the recycling value of the glass stream, for other than new glass manufacturing.

The Beverage Container Management Board

The Beverage Container Management Board meets on a quarterly basis and provides advice to the Minister on the province's deposit-refund system. The ten member board comprises representatives nominated by Encorp Pacific (Canada), Brewers Distributor Ltd., the Liquor Distribution Branch, the BC Bottle Depot Association, local government, labour, retail grocers, the Recycling Council of BC, an environmental non-government organization and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks. The Board is chaired by Pat Wallace from Kamloops, the local government representative.

Further Information

Recycling Hotline of BC	(604) 732-9253 (Greater Vancouver) 1-800-667-4321 (Rest of BC) http://www.rcbc.bc.ca/
Encorp Pacific (Canada)	(604) 473-2400 (Greater Vancouver) 1-800-330-9767 (Rest of BC) http://www.encorpinc.com/
Liquor Distribution Branch	(604) 252-3029 http://www.bcliquorstores.com/service/recyclingcentres.cfm

Brewers Distributor Ltd.	(604) 664-2300 http://www.westernbrewers.com/

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